



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

***Raised Bill No. 6908***

LCO No. 4437

\*04437\_\_\_\_ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A CONNECTICUT CLEAN CAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 12-412 of the general statutes is amended by  
2 adding subdivisions (116) and (117) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

3 (NEW) (116) New motor vehicles determined by the Commissioner  
4 of Environmental Protection to have low emissions of greenhouse gas,  
5 as defined in section 22a-200, shall receive a sales tax reduction of  
6 between zero and three per cent of the vehicle purchase price, as  
7 determined by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, which  
8 percentage is based proportionally on the vehicle's estimated lifetime  
9 greenhouse gas emissions, as determined by the United States  
10 Environmental Protection Agency. A schedule of new motor vehicles  
11 that qualify for this subsection shall be published by the Commissioner  
12 of Environmental Protection on an annual basis.

13 (117) New motor vehicles determined by the Commissioner of  
14 Environmental Protection to have high emissions of greenhouse gas, as  
15 defined in section 22a-200, shall be assessed a sales tax adjustment of  
16 between zero and three per cent of the vehicle purchase price, as  
17 determined by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, which  
18 percentage is based proportionally on the vehicle's estimated lifetime  
19 greenhouse gas emissions, as determined by the United States  
20 Environmental Protection Agency. A schedule of new motor vehicles  
21 that qualify for this subsection shall be published by the Commissioner  
22 of Environmental Protection on an annual basis.

23 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) The Department of  
24 Environmental Protection shall, within available resources, establish a  
25 public education program regarding the sales tax reductions and  
26 assessments pursuant to section 1 of this act.

27 (b) There is established a separate, nonlapsing account within the  
28 General Fund known as the "clean air health risk reduction account".  
29 The clean air health risk reduction account shall be used by the  
30 Commissioner of Environmental Protection for the administration of  
31 the provisions of this section. The net sales tax revenues generated by  
32 the clean car incentive schedule established pursuant to subsection (a)  
33 of this section shall be deposited into said account. During the fiscal  
34 years ending June 30, 2008, 2009 and 2010, the first one million dollars  
35 of any funds expended by the clean air health risk reduction account  
36 shall be dedicated to reducing harmful emissions from school buses,  
37 through retrofitting such buses with emissions control equipment or  
38 replacing such buses with low emissions models.

39 (c) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall establish a  
40 competitive process for awarding grants from the Clean Air Health  
41 Risk Reduction Fund. The commissioner, within available  
42 appropriations, shall award at least one million dollars per year to  
43 fund projects to reduce harmful emissions of fine particulates, nitrogen  
44 oxides, volatile organic compounds, sulfur dioxide and other harmful

45 air pollutants. Projects that are eligible for Clean Air Health Risk  
 46 Reduction Fund grants shall include, but are not limited to: (1)  
 47 Emissions-reducing retrofit projects for on-road or off-road diesel  
 48 engines; (2) emissions-reducing repowering projects for on-road and  
 49 off-road diesel engines; (3) purchase and use of emissions reducing  
 50 retrofits for on-road or off-road diesel engines; (4) accelerated  
 51 changeover of fleets to cleaner running vehicles; (5) emissions-  
 52 reducing technology for stationary sources impacting residential  
 53 neighborhoods; and (6) changeover to cleaner burning fuels.

54 (d) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall review the  
 55 schedules required by subdivisions (116) and (117) of section 12-412 of  
 56 the general statutes, as amended by this act, in relation to  
 57 Connecticut's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, as specified in  
 58 section 22a-200a of the general statutes, and in relation to the average  
 59 greenhouse gas emissions of new motor vehicles sold and registered in  
 60 the state and shall develop recommendations with respect to any  
 61 revisions to the schedules necessary to meet the state's greenhouse gas  
 62 emission reduction goals.

63 (e) Not later than December 1, 2008, the Commissioner of  
 64 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Governor's Steering  
 65 Committee on Climate Change, shall report, in accordance with the  
 66 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, regarding motor  
 67 vehicle greenhouse gas emission reductions necessary to meet the  
 68 goals of section 22a-200a of the general statutes and any necessary  
 69 legislation to achieve such reductions to the joint standing committee  
 70 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
 71 environment.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	12-412
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To provide incentives for consumers to purchase and use clean cars.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*